THE PRINCIPAL

ACTS

OF THE

General Assembly

OF THE

CHURCH

OF

SCOTLAND,

Conveened at *Edinburgh*, the 14th Day of *May*, 1741.

Collected and Extracted from the Records by the Clerk thereof.

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Begun at *Edinburgh*, upon *Thursday* the 14th Day of *May*, 1741, and concluded the 25th Day of the said Month and Year.

I.

The King's Commission to Alexander *Earl of* Leven *produced, and ordered to be recorded.*

At Edinburgh *the 14th Day of* May, 1741, *Sess.* 1.

THE General Assembly of this National Church being convened and constituted, there was produced to them, by the Right Honourable *Alexander* Earl of *Leven*, the King's Commission, sealed with the Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and used in *Scotland*, in Place of the Great Seal of *Scotland*, making and constituting him, His Majesty's High Commissioner and Representative in this Assembly; which Commission being publickly read, with all due Honour and Respect, was appointed to be recorded in the Books of Assembly, the Tenor whereof follows,

GEORGIUS, *Dei gratia, Magnæ Britanniæ, Franciæ & Hiberniæ Rex, fidei Defensor: Omnibus probis hominibus ad quos præsentes literæ Nostræ pervenerint, salutem. Quandoquidem Nos considerantes quod Generalis Ecclesiæ Scotiæ Conventus in decimum quartum diem mensis Maii, proxime futuri, convenire ordinatus fuit: Nosque etiam abunde cupidi, quin etiam necessarium esse judicantes, in commodum dictæ Ecclesiæ, ut idem Generalis Ecclesiæ Conventus die statuto debite observetur, atq; rebus magni momenti Nos alio vocantibus, dicto conventui personaliter interesse nequimus; et per multa testimonia Nobis abunde satisfactum sit de sufficientia & fidelitate fidelissimi & dilectissimi nostri consanguinei Alexandri Comitis de Leven, quod ad summum munus postea mentionatum, rite exercendum & obeundum, usquequaque sit instructus & idoneus: Noveritis igitur Nos nominasse, constituisse & ordinasse, sicuti tenore præsentium nominamus, constituimus & ordinamus, antedictum Alexandrum Comitem de Leven, supremum Nostrum Commissionarium ad effectum postea mentionatum, Dando pariter, & concedendo illi plenissimam Nostram Potestatem, Commissionem & Warrantum, sacram Nostram Personam, & authoritatem regalem repræsentandi, nec non præsentiam Nostram supplendi, locum Nostrum in dicto subsequenti Generali Conventu tanquam Commissionario Nostro in hunc effectum specialiter constituto, tenendi; omniaque alia ad imperium & munus Commissionarii pro Generali Ecclesiæ Conventu peragendi, tam plene, adeoque libere in quovis respectu, quam quilibet alius ejusdem summi muneris fecerat, seu quovis tempore præterito facere potuerat, & ac si Nos ipsi personaliter præsentes facere potuerimus: Quæque omnia & singula a dicto Alexandro Comite de Leven, in hac Nostra commissione prosequenda, legittime fecerit, seu fieri ordinaverit, Nos firmiter approbamus & habituri sumus. Omnibus & singulis insuper ante dictæ Ecclesiæ & Conventus Pastoribus & Presbyteris, cæterisque quibuscunque infra illam partem Magnæ Britanniæ Scotiam vocatam, subditis nostris, cujuscunque gradus seu qualitatis, ut dictum Alexandrum Comitem de Leven, tanquam supremum Nostrum Commissionarium, quoad effectum & modum supra mentionatum, revereantur, agnoscant, & dicto ipsius audientes se præbeant, stricte mandamus & imperamus; atque hanc Nostram Commissionem decimo quarto die mensis Maii proxime incipere, ac deinceps hac subsequenti sessione dicti Generalis Conventus in vigore continuare declaramus, vel usque dum a nobis revocabitur & exonerabi-*

tur:

tur: In cujus rei teſtimonium, ſigillum Noſtrum per Unionis tractatum cuſtodiendum, & in Scotia vice & loco magni ſigilli ejuſdem utendum, ordinatum, præſentibus appendi mandavimus. Apud Aulam Noſtram, de St. James's vigeſimo quinto die menſis Aprilis, milleſimo ſeptingenteſimo quadrageſimo primo, regnique noſtri anno duodecimo quarto.

Per ſignaturam manu S. D. N. Regis ſupraſcriptam

Sealed at *Edinburgh*, this thirteenth Day of *May*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and forty one Years.
ARCH. CAMPBELL.

Written to the Seal, and regiſtred the 13th Day of *May*, One thouſand ſeven hundred and forty one.
ALEX. CAMPBELL Dept.

II.

The King's Moſt Gracious LETTER *to the General Aſſembly, preſented to them by his Majeſty's Commiſſioner.*

Edinburgh, May 14*th.* 1741. *Seſſ.* 1.

GEORGE R.

RIGHT Reverend and Well-beloved, We greet you well. Being fully confident, from your prudent Management in former Aſſemblies, that you will now come together with the ſame good Diſpoſitions, and conduct yourſelves with the ſame Temper and Unanimity in this: Being alſo well ſatisfied of your Zeal and Affection for Our Perſon and Government, We moſt willingly countenance your preſent Meeting with our Royal Approbation and Authority.

We take this Opportunity to renew to you the Aſſurances We have ſo often given you of Our conſtant Care and Endeavours to ſupport the Intereſt, and maintain inviolably the Rights and Privileges of the Church of which you are Members; not doubting but that We ſhall have a ſuitable Return of Gratitude and Duty on your Parts: And you may firmly depend upon having always Our moſt ready Concurrence in promoting true Religion and Piety, in diſcouraging Profaneneſs and Immorality, and in preventing

the Growth of Popery, againſt which, you muſt be ſenſible true Proteſtants can never be too much upon their Guard.

We have made Choice of Our Right Truſty and entirely beloved Couſin, *Alexander* Earl of *Leven*, to repreſent Our Royal Perſon in this Aſſembly, whoſe Zeal for Our Service, and Abilities for the Execution of ſo great a Truſt, as well as affectionate Concern for the Proſperity of the Church of *Scotland*, will, we aſſure Ourſelves, make him very acceptable to you, and engage you to concur unanimouſly in every Thing that may moſt effectually conduce to the attaining the great and deſirable Ends for which you are now conveened. And ſo We bid you heartily farewell. Given at our Court at St. *James*'s, the 25th Day of *April*, 1741. in the Fourteenth Year of Our Reign.

By His Majeſty's Command.

HOLIES NEWCASTLE.

Directed thus:

To the Right Reverend and Well-beloved, the Moderator, Miniſters and Elders of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY *of the Church of* Scotland.

III.

The General Aſſembly's Anſwer to the King's Moſt Gracious Letter.

Edinburgh May 16th 1741. *Seſſ.* 3.

May it pleaſe your Majeſty,

YOUR Majeſty's Moſt Gracious Letter to this Aſſembly, wherein you are pleaſed to take Notice of the prudent Management of former Aſſemblies, We received with great Pleaſure and Thankfulneſs, and are reſolved, thro' the good Hand of God upon us, to maintain thoſe good Diſpoſitions, and to conduct Ourſelves with that Temper and Unanimity which becomes Our Character, and may ſtill entitle us to Your Royal Favour

Your Majeſty's Satisfaction with our Zeal and Affection to Your Royal Perſon and Government, for which you are pleaſed moſt willingly to countenance this preſent Meeting, with Your Royal Approbation and Authority, cannot but animate us, zealouſly to purſue the ſame Meaſures of Duty and Loyalty.

The

The renewed Assurances of Your Majesty's constant Care to support the Interest, and maintain inviolably, the Rights and Privileges of the Church, of which we are Members, lays us under the strongest Obligations to make the best Returns of Duty and Gratitude. We firmly depend upon Your Majesty's Countenance, for promoting true Religion and Piety, in discouraging Profaneness and Immorality, and in preventing the Growth of Popery; against which, We, and all true Protestants can never be too much upon our Guard.

Your Majesty's Bounty for the Reformation of the Highlands and Islands, which we look upon as a fresh Instance of Your Majesty's true Concern for the Glory of God, and Good of Your Subjects in those Parts, shall be carefully employed in an exact Conformity to Your Royal Intentions.

The Earl of *Leven*'s Zeal for Your Majesty's Service, his known Abilities for the Execution of so great a Trust, and his affectionate Concern, as well as that of his noble and pious Ancestors, for the Prosperity of the Church of *Scotland*, renders Your Majesty's Choice of him to represent Your Royal Person in this Assembly, most acceptable to us, and does encourage us to concur unanimously in every Thing that may most effectually conduce to the easy executing of his high Trust, and the obtaining the great and desirable Ends for which we are now conveened.

That God may abundantly bless Your Majesty, establish Your Throne in Righteousness, direct and conduct Your Councils, protect You while abroad, and after you have finished Your important Affairs there, may return You to these Your Dominions with Safety and Honour; That he would bless their Royal Highnesses, the Prince and Princess of *Wales*, the Duke, the Princesses, the Issue of the Prince and Princess of *Wales*, and all the Royal Family; That God would go forth with Your Armies, and cover their Heads in the Day of Battle; That he would be a Hiding-place from the Tempest, and a Covert from the Storm to Your Fleets, give Success to both, and bring the War to a speedy and happy Conclusion, are, and shall be the sincere and hearty Prayers of,

May it please Your Majesty,

Your Majesty's most faithful, most obedient, and most loyal Subjects,

The Ministers and Elders met in this National Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our Name, in our Presence, and at our Appointment, by

JAMES RAMSAY, *Moderator.*

ACT

IV.

ACT and Recommendation for the Obſervation of a Faſt within the Bounds of the ſeveral Presbyteries of this Church.

Edinburgh, May 23*d*, 1741. *Seſſ.* 9.

THE General Aſſembly, taking into their ſerious Conſideration, and being deeply affected with the diſtreſſed State of the Land, by Reaſon of the Scarcity and Famine we are groaning under; The dangerous and expenſive War we are engaged in; with many other Tokens of the LORD's Wrath againſt us; and all theſe juſtly inflicted by a righteous GOD, for our many Sins, grievous Backſlidings and Provocations, did judge it their Duty, ſpeedily to call Perſons of all Ranks to Humble themſelves before the LORD, acknowledging our Tranſgreſſions, and flying, by Faith and Repentance, to the Blood of JESUS CHRIST, that a Merciful GOD may, for his Sake, pity us, and not give us over to the Will of our Enemies abroad, nor conſume us with Famine and other Judgments at Home: THEREFORE, the Aſſembly did, and hereby do, Recommend to, and Appoint all the ſeveral Presbyteries, at their firſt Meeting, to fix upon the Day, moſt convenient for their reſpective Bounds; and that this Day be, at leaſt, within the Month of *June* next: And that where Presbyteries ly at ſuch a Diſtance, as this Act cannot reach them before their firſt Meeting, That the Moderator ſhall call a Presbytery for this Effect, and appoint a Day with all convenient Speed: THAT Presbyteries conſider not only the General Cauſes, but the particular Sins moſt prevalent amongſt them, that they may be confeſſed and mourned over before the LORD; and all Perſons be called to Repentance, and Amendment of Heart and Way, as they would eſcape, thro' the LORD's Mercy, the Judgments hanging over our Heads, and heavier Strokes being yet inflicted.

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V.

Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders for Reformation *of the* Highlands *and* Islands, *and for managing His Majesty's Royal Bounty for that End.*

Edinburgh, May 23*d*, 1741. *Sess.* 9.

THE General Assembly do hereby nominate, commissionate and appoint, the Reverend Mr. *James Ramsay* Minister of the Gospel at *Kelso*, their Moderator, Messrs. *Niel Campbel* Principal of the College at *Glasgow*, *John Gowdie* Professor of Divinity in the College of *Edinburgh*, *William Gusthart* at Edinburgh, *John Mathieson* there, *Robert Bell* at Crealline, *John Lumisden* Professor of Divinity in the King's College at Aberdeen, His Majesty's Chaplains, *Niel MacVicar* at West-Kirk near Edinburgh, His Majesty's Almoner, *Alexander MacLaggan* at Little-Dunkeld, *Gilbert Man* at Monedie, *William Hally* at Muthill, *George Preston* at Markinch, *John Ogilvy* at Tannadice, *David Thomson* at Meegle, *George Chalmers* Principal of the King's College at Aberdeen, *John Osburn* Principal of the Marischal College there, *George Largue* at Kinnearny, *Alexander Simpson* at Monymusk, *James Anderson* at Boyndie, *Alexander Stuart* at Grange, *Lauchlan Schaw* at Elgin, *James Spens* at Urquhart, *John Balfour* at Nigg, *Thomas Chisholme* at Kilmorack, *Donald MacLeod* at Northuist, *John Grant* at Urquhart, *Donald Ross* at Lochbroom, *John Skeldoch* at Farr, *Edward Irvine* at Kirkwall, *Matthew Moncreif* at Bressay, *John Guthrie* at Ratho, *George Logan* at Edinburgh, *John Hepburn* there, *George Lindsay* at North-Leith, *Gilbert Hamilton* at Cramond, *Alexander Douglas* at East-Calder, *John Bowie* at Dolphingtoun, *James Robertson* at Eddlestoun, *William Criech* at Newbottle, *James Glen* at Dirletoun, *James Laurie* at Langtoun, *James Winchester* at Jedburgh, *John Dickie* at Dunscore, *Robert Thomson* at Girthon, *William Younger* at Muirkirk, *Michael Potter* Professor of Divinity in the College at Glasgow, *James Getty* at Inverary, *Archibald MacTavish* at Torasay, in Mull, *John Thurburn* at Kirknewtoun, *James Walker* at Canongate, *James Nisbet* at Edinburgh,

James Bannatyne there, *John Walker* at Canongate, *George Fordyce* at Corſtorphine, *William Robertſon* at Edinburgh, *Robert Kinloch* there, *John Glen* there, *Thomas Pitcairn* at Weſt-Kirk, *Patrick Cuming* at Edinburgh, *James Stevenſon* at South-Leith, *Robert Wallace* at Edinburgh, *William Wiſhart* Principal of the Colledge at Edinburgh, *George Wiſhart* at Edinburgh, *Robert Hamilton* there, *William Aitkin* at South-Leith, *George Gibſon* at Collingtoun, *Alexander Webſter* at Edinburgh, *James Glaſgow* in the Caſtle of Edinburgh, and *David Moubray* at Currie, Miniſters; His Grace *James* Duke of *Athole*, the Moſt Honourable *John* Marquis of *Tweeddale*, the Right Honourable *James* Earl of *Morton*, *David* Earl of *Buchan*, *William* Earl of *Home*, *Alexander* Earl of *Leven*, *Archibald* Earl of *Iſlay*, *Francis* Lord *Napier*, *George* Lord *Reay*, *Duncan Forbes* of *Culloden*, Eſquire, Lord Preſident of the Court of Seſſion, *Charles Areskine* of *Tinwald*, Eſquire, His Majeſty's Advocate, the Lord *Drummore*, the Lord *Monzie*, the Lord *Elchies*, *William Grant* Eſquire, His Majeſty's Sollicitor, Mr. *Alexander Belches* of *Innermay*, Mr. *Thomas Dundas* of *Fingask*, Colonel *John Erskine* of *Carnock*, Sir *Robert Monro* of *Fowlis* Baronet, Mr. *Albert Monro* of *Coul*, Mr. *Alexander Gordon* of Ardoch, *Nicol Spence* Agent for the Church, *Hugh Hathorn* one of the preſent Baillies of *Edinburgh*, *James Naſmyth* of *Earlshaugh*, Eſq; *George Halyburton* Eſquire, Lord Provoſt of *Edinburgh*, *Alexander Nisbet* of *Northfield*, Deacon-Conveener of the Trades there, *Robert Dundas* younger of *Arniſtoun*, Eſq; Mr. *Charles Binning* of *Pilmore*, Advocates, Doctor *Alexander Martin* of *Airies*, Mr. *Andrew MacDoual* Advocate, Mr. *Alexander Boſwal* younger of *Auchinleck* Advocate, Mr. *James Bogle* Remembrancer in Exchequer, *George Drummond* Eſq; late Provoſt of *Edinburgh*, Mr. *Alexander MacMillan* of *Dunmore*, *John Osburn* Eſq; late Provoſt of *Edinburgh*, *James Baillie* of *Hardingtoun* Writer to the Signet, Mr. *George Buchan* of *Kello*, Mr. *Thomas Rigg* of *Mortoun*, Mr. *James Nimmo* Caſhier in Exciſe, Mr. *James Davidſon* of *Haltree*, Mr. *Patrick Haldane* of *Bear-crofts* Advocate, and *John Paton* Bookſeller in Edinburgh, Ruling-Elders; To be a Committee of this Aſſembly for Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Iſlands* of *Scotland*; for promoting the Knowledge of true Religion, ſuppreſſing of Popery and Profanity, and for managing the Royal Bounty given for theſe Ends, according to and in Terms of His Majeſty's Grant to this Aſſembly, and the Seventh Act of the late Aſſembly, and whole Acts thereinmentioned, and in Acts formerly made and referred to in the Commiſſions granted to former Committees, any ſeven of the Perſons above named are declared to be a *Quorum*, whereof

whereof ſome to be Miniſters: But it is hereby appointed, That, at the Quarterly Meeting of the ſaid Committee, to be held after the riſing of the Commiſſion in *Auguſt* next, when the Scheme or Eſtabliſhment of Miſſionaries for the Year enſuing ſhall be approved and determined, nine Miniſters and five Ruling Elders, at leaſt, ſhall be a *Quorum*; and the ſaid Committee are appointed to have their Meetings at *Edinburgh*, in the Hall of the *Society in Scotland for Propagating Chriſtian Knowledge*, the laſt *Thurſday* of every Month, at Three of the Clock in the Afternoon, and alſo the firſt lawful Day after the Adjournment of the four ſtated Diets of the Commiſſion of the General Aſſembly, at Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon, except when it falls to be *Friday* or *Saturday*, and then the Meeting is to be upon the *Monday* following next thereafter, at the ſaid Hour, with Power to the ſaid Committee to adjourn themſelves to ſuch Times and Places as they ſhall find moſt needful and convenient; and they are to keep a Correſpondence with the Commiſſion of the General Aſſembly, and the Society for Chriſtian Knowledge, and their Committee of Directors, and take their Advice and Aſſiſtance. And the General Aſſembly do, by theſe Preſents, nominate the ſaid Mr. *William Grant* Advocate, His Majeſty's Solicitor, and Procurator for the Church, to be Receiver of the foreſaid Royal Bounty, and to pay out the ſame as he ſhall be directed and ordered by the ſaid Committee, and according to their Rules: And the ſaid Committee are appointed to examine the Accompts of the Diſtribution of the ſaid Royal Bounty, and lay the ſame before the Lords Commiſſioners of His Majeſty's Treaſury, or Barons of his Majeſty's Court of Exchequer, and to report their Diligence to the General Aſſembly, to whom they are to be accountable: And it is agreed, That no Perſon once employed, and inſert in the Scheme, ſhall be ſtruck out thereof, for that Year, but by the *Quorum* of at leaſt nine Miniſters and five Ruling Elders: And in Caſe any Complaint ſhall be made againſt any of them on the Scheme, it ſhall not be determined at the firſt ordinary Meeting that the ſame is offered, but ſhall ly on the Table till another Meeting; and, in the mean Time, the Perſon complained of, and the Presbytery of the Bounds wherein he officiates, ſhall be acquainted of ſuch a Complaint, and theſe concerned be required to ſend the ſaid Committee a juſt Account of the Matter againſt the ſaid next Meeting. And it is further appointed, That after the Yearly Scheme of Miſſionaries on the Royal Bounty is ſettled, in Manner above directed, and Notice thereof given by Letters to the Presbyteries concerned, ſuch Presbyteries ſhall ſend up to the ſaid Committee their Anſwer to theſe Letters, at fartheſt, with their Commiſſioners to the General

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ral Assembly, if the same be not got done sooner; and the Committee, at their Meeting in *May*, shall name a Subcommittee of their Number for preparing the next Year's Scheme, who are to lay their Draught thereof before the said Meeting immediately after the Commission in *August*.

VI.

COMMISSION to some Ministers and Ruling Elders, for discussing Affairs referred to them.

Edinburgh, May 23d, 1741. Sess. 9.

THE General Assembly taking to their Consideration, That there are diverse Affairs which they cannot overtake, do hereby nominate, commissionate and appoint, The Reverend Mr. *James Ramsay* Minister at *Kelso*, their Moderator; and from the Presbytery of Dunkeld, Mr. *George Frier* at Lethandy, Mr. *Alexander MacCulloch* at Clunie, Mr. *Alexander MacLaggan* at Little-Dunkeld, Mr. *Gilbert Man* at Monedie, Ministers; His Grace *James* Duke of *Athole*, *Patrick Drummond* of Gairdrum, and *Patrick Small* of Llanoch, Ruling Elders. From the Presbytery of Perth, Mr. *Thomas Finlayson* at Dumbarny, Mr. *Charles Phut* at Kinfauns, Mr. *John Moncreif* at Rhind, Mr. *John Faichney* at Collace, Ministers; *Alexander Belches* of Innermay, and Mr. *Robert Craigie* of Glendoeg Advocate, Ruling Elders. For the Burgh of Perth, Provost *Patrick Crie*. From the Presbytery of Stirling, Mr. *James Gordon* at Alloa, Mr. *Henry Lindsay* at Bothkennar, Mr. *John Bruce* at Airth, Ministers; Mr. *Thomas Dundas* of Fingask, Ruling Elder; and for the Burgh of Stirling, The Hon^ble. *James Erskine* of Grange, Esquire. From the Presbytery of Auchterarder, Mr. *John Drummond* at Creif, Mr. *William Hally* at Muthill, Mr. *Robert Drummond* at Auchterarder, Ministers; Mr. *James Graham* of Damside Writer to the Signet, and the Lord *Monzie* Ruling Elders. From the Presbytery of Dumblane, Mr. *John MacCallum* at Callander, Mr. *John Fergusson* at Port, Ministers; the Lord *Napier* Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Dumfermling, Mr. *John Geddes*

Geddes at Culroſs, Mr. *John Liſton* at Aberdour, Mr. *Robert Stark* at Kinroſs, Miniſters; Colonel *John Erskine* of Carnock, Ruling Elder; and from the Burgh of Dumfermling, the moſt Honourable *John* Marquis of *Tweeddale*. From the Presbytery of Kirkcaldy, Mr. *John Currie* at Kinglaſſie, Mr. *Robert Punton* at Kennoway, Mr. *George Preſton* at Markinch, Miniſters; *John Simſon* younger of Brunton, Ruling Elder. From the Burgh of Kirkcaldy, Doctor *Robert Hay* of Struie, Phyſician. Burgh of Dyſart, Mr. *George Irvine* of Newtoun; and from the Burgh of Kinghorn, Mr. *Hugh Murray Kynnynmound* of Melgund, Advocate. From the Presbytery of Coupar, Mr. *Alexander Stoddart* at Faulkland, Mr. *Joſias Walker* at Abdie, Mr. *Archibald Myles* at Moonſie, Mr. *George Kay* at Coleſſie, Miniſters; the Right Hon. *Alexander* Earl of *Leven*, and *James MacGill* of Rankeilor, Eſq; Ruling Elders; and from the Burgh of *Coupar*, the Hon. Commiſſary *James Leſly*, Advocate. From the Presbytery of St. Andrews, Mr. *James Haddow*, Principal of the New-College in St. Andrews, Mr. *Andrew Burns* at Anſtruther-Weſter, Mr. *James Walker* at Leuchars, Mr. *John Chalmers* at Ely, Miniſters; Dr. *John Scot* of Cotts, Phyſician, and *Alexander Walker* of St. Fort, Ruling Elders. From the Univerſity of St. Andrews, Mr. *Archibald Campbel*, Profeſſor of Church-Hiſtory in the Univerſity of St. Andrews. From the Presbytery of Meegle, Mr. *David Thomſon* at Meegle, Mr. *James Lyon* at Blairgowrie, Mr. *William Arthur* at Glen-Iſlay, Miniſters; and *John Murray* of Lintroſe, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Forfar, Mr. *John Ogilvy* at Tannadice, Mr. *Andrew Arrot* at Dunichen, Miniſters; *John Donaldſon* of Invereichty, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Dundee, Mr. *John Ker* at Mains, Mr. *John Steuart* at Tealing, Mr. *George Johnſton* at Monikie, Miniſters; *John Jobſon* Baillie in Dundee, Ruling Elder; and from the Burgh of Dundee, Mr. *William Moriſon* of Naughtoun. From the Presbytery of Aberbrothwick, Mr. *James Small* at Carmylie, Mr. *William Dall* at Barry, Miniſters; Baillie *James Doig*, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Brichen, Mr. *David Ferguſſon* at Fairnwell, Mr. *William Shank* at Brichen, Mr. *William Traill* at Logie and Pert, Miniſters; *William Roſs* Baillie in Montroſe, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Fordoun, Mr. *William Thomſon* at Marykirk, Mr. *Alexander Shank* at St. Ceres, Miniſters; *James Burnet* younger of Montboddo, Ruling Elder; and from the Burgh of Bervie, Mr. *Alexander Arbuthnot* of *Knox*. From the Presbytery of *Aberdeen*, Mr. *George Chalmers*, Principal of the King's College at Aberdeen, Mr. *Alexander Shank* at Drummoak, Mr. *Patrick Gordon* at Fintray, Mr. *Thomas Reid* at Newmachar, Miniſters;

ſters; Provoſt *Alexander Robertſon*, and Mr. *William Grant*, His Majeſty's Sollicitor, Ruling Elders. From the King's College, Mr. *John Lumiſden*, Profeſſor of Divinity in the King's College of Aberdeen; and from Mariſchal College, Mr. *John Oſeburn*, Principal of the Mariſchal College at Aberdeen. From the Presbytery of Kincardine-Oniel, Mr. *George Shepherd* at Aboyne, Mr. *George Largue* at Kinnerny, Mr. *William Abel* at *Lumphannan*, Miniſters; Sir *Arthur Forbes* of Craigievar Baronet, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of *Alford*, Mr. *William Badenoch* at Alford, Mr. *William Mill* at *Kildrimmy*, Mr. *Theodore Gordon* at Kennethmont, Miniſters; *James Forbes* in Balfluig Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Ellon, Mr. *James Burnet* at Ellon, Mr. *John Roſe* at Logie-buchan, Miniſters; *James Dick* Merchant in Bomakeſſie, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Garioch, Mr. *Francis Downie* at Kemnay, Mr. *Alexander Simſon* at Monimusk, Mr. *George Gordon* at Bourty, Miniſters; the Lord *Drummore* Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Deer, Mr. *John Brown* at Longſide, Mr. *Thomas Anderſon* at Aberdour, Mr. *William Taylor* at Newdeer, Miniſters; the Lord *Strichan*, and *George Ironſide* Merchant in New-deer, Ruling Elders. From the Presbytery of Turreff, Mr. *Thomas Scot* at Fyvie, Mr. *Andrew Gauld* at Auchterleſs, Miniſters; Mr. *David Bannerman* Probationer, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Fordice, Mr. *James Anderſon* at Boyndie, Mr. *Alexander Irvine* at Fordice, Miniſters; *Alexander Grant*, of *Tochiniell*, Ruling Elder. From the Burgh of Cullen, Mr. *Charles Hope Weir* of Craigiehall. From the Presbytery of Strathbogy, Mr. *Walter Syme* at Mortlith, Mr. *Alexander Stewart* at Grange, Miniſters; Mr. *William Duff* of Crombie Advocate, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Aberlour, Mr. *Alexander Fraſer* at Inveraven, Mr. *John Tough* at Aberlour, Miniſters; the Lord *Elchies*, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Abernethy, Mr. *George Grant* at Kirkmichael, Mr. *Francis Grant* at Cromdale, Miniſters; Sir *James Grant* of Grant, Ruling Elder. From the Preſbytery of Elgin, Mr. *Lauchlan Schaw* at Elgin, Mr. *James Spence* at Urquhart, Miniſters; *Ludovick Dumbar* of Weſtfield, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Forreſs, Mr. *Alexander Schaw* at Edinkilly, Mr *Alexander Roſe* at Nairn, Miniſters; *James Brodie* of Whitehill, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Inverneſs, Mr. *Robert Thomſon* at Kirkhill, Mr. *Patrick Grant* at Calder, Miniſters; *Duncan Forbes* of Cullodden Eſq; Lord Preſident of the Seſſion, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Chanonry, Mr. *Hugh Campbell* at Kilmuir-Weſter, Mr. *John Robertſon* at Killernan, Miniſters; Mr. *Alexander Gordon* of Ardoch, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Tain, Mr.

Daniel

Daniel Beton at Roſekeen, Mr. *John Balfour* at Nigg, Miniſters; *Donald Roſs* Baillie of Tain, Ruling Elder; and from the Burgh of Tain, Sir *Robert Munro* of Foulis, Baronet. From the Presbytery of Dingwall, Mr. *Thomas Chiſholm* at Kilmorack, Mr. *Andrew Robertſon* at Kiltearn, Miniſters; Mr. *Albert Munro* of Coull, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Abertarph, Mr. *John Stewart* at Kilmanivaig, Mr. *John Grant* at Urquhart, Miniſters; the Laird of Grant younger, Ruling Elder. From the Preſbytery of Sky, Mr. *Daniel MacAulay* at Bracadale, Mr. *Archibald MacQueen* at Snizort, Miniſters. From the Presbytery of Long-Iſland, Mr. *Daniel MacLeod* at Northuiſt, Mr. *Murdo Moriſon* at Barvas, Miniſters; Mr. *William MacLeod* of Hammir, Ruling Elder. From the Prestery of Gairloch, Mr. *Donald Roſs* at Lochbroom, Mr. *Æneas MacAulay* at Gairloch, Miniſters; *Murdo MacIvar* of Leakmailm, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Dornoch, Mr. *Robert Kirk* at Dornoch, Mr. *John Sutherland* at Golſpie, Miniſters; Baillie *Andrew MacCulloch*, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Tong, Mr. *Walter Roſs* at Tong, Mr. *John Skeldoch* at Farr, Miniſters; and the Right Honourable *George* Lord *Reay*, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Caithneſs, Mr. *James Oſwald* at Dunnet, Mr. *James Gilchriſt* at Thurſo, Miniſters; the Lord *Murkle*, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Kirkwall, Mr. *John Bannatyne* at South-Ronaldſhay, Mr. *Edward Irvine* at Kirkwall, Miniſters; the Right Honourable *James* Earl of *Morton*, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Cairſton, Mr. *Alexander Geddes* at Birſay, Mr. *James Weir* at Orphir, Miniſters; *Nicol Spence* Agent for the Church, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of North-Iſles, Mr. *Thomas Trail* at Lady-Pariſh, Mr. *James Jamiſon* at Rouſay, Miniſters; *Jerom Denniſon* of Noutland, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Zetland, Mr. *Matthew Moncrief* at Breſſay, Mr. *Thomas Millar* at Lerwick, Miniſters; *Andrew Bult* Merchant in Lerwick, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Edinburgh, Mr. *Niel MacVicar* at Weſt-Kirk, Mr. *John Guthrie* at Ratho, Mr. *George Logan* at Edinburgh, Mr. *John Hepburn* there, Mr. *George Lindſay* at North-Leith, Mr. *Gilbert Hamilton* at Cramond, Miniſters; the Lord *Arniſton*, Baillie *Hugh Hathorn*, and *James Naſmith* of Earlſhaugh, Ruling Elders. From the City of Edinburgh, *George Haliburton* Eſq; Lord Provoſt, Mr. *Alexander Nisbet*, Deacon Conveener of the Trades thereof. From the Univerſity of Edinburgh, Mr. *John Goudie* Profeſſor of Divinity; and from the Scots Church at Campvere, Mr. *James Tair*, Miniſter, and Mr. *Archibald MacAulay*, Lord Conſervator. From the Presbytery of Linlithgow, Mr. *John Lookup* at Mid-

Mid-Calder, Mr. *Alexander Douglas* at Eaſt-Calder, Mr. *Patrick Bennet* at Polmont, Mr. *William Brand* at Borrowſtounneſs, Miniſters; the Laird of *Dundas*, and the Laird of *Wallhouſe*, Ruling Elders. From the Burgh of Linlithgow, The Right Honourable *David* Earl of *Buchan*, and the Honourable Mr. *Charles Erskine* of Edenſhead, Ruling Elders; and from the Burgh of Queensferry, Mr. *Robert Ramſay* of Blackcraig, Advocate. From the Presbytery of Biggar, Mr. *Simon Kelly* at Glenholm, Mr. *John Bowie* at Dolphington, Miniſters; *George Muirhead* of Whitecaſtle, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Peebles, Mr. *James Robertſon* at Eddilſton, Mr. *Thomas Finlater* at Linton, Mr. *Chriſtopher Cairns* at Tweedſmuir, Miniſters; Sir *John Clark* of *Pennycook*, Baronet, one of the Barons of Exchequer, and *Charles Hamilton* of Spittlehaugh, Ruling Elders: And from the Burgh of Peebles, the Right Honourable *Charles* Earl of *Lauderdale*. From the Presbytery of Dalkeith, Mr. *Thomas Turnbull* at Borthwick, Mr. *Adam Steel* at Heriot, Mr. *William Creech* at Newbottle, Miniſters; Mr. *Robert Dundas* younger of Arniſton, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Haddingtoun, Mr. *James Glen* at Dirleton, Mr. *John Barclay* at Morham, Mr. *George Murray* at Northberwick, Miniſters; Sir *Robert Sinclair* of Stevenſon, Ruling Elder. From the Burgh of Haddingtoun, Mr. *Charles Cockburn*, Advocate; and from the Burgh of Northberwick, Mr. *George Brown* younger of Colſton, Advocate. From the Presbytery of Dumbar, Mr. *Alexander Pyot* at Dumbar, Mr. *Matthew Reid* at Preſtonhall, Miniſters; Mr. *Thomas Hamilton*, Advocate, Ruling Elder. From the Burgh of Dumbar, *Alexander Hamilton* of Pancaitland, Eſq;. From the Presbytery of Dunſe, Mr. *James Laurie* at Langton, Mr. *William Home* at Polwarth, Miniſters; Mr. *Alexander Home* of Eccles, Advocate, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Chirnſide, Mr. *William Wilſon* at Coldſtream, Mr. *Alexander Trotter* at Edrom, Mr. *James Landereth* at Simprin, Miniſters; *Thomas Fordice* of Aiton, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Kelſo, Mr. *Charles Baxter* at Sprouſton, Mr. *Andrew Chatto* at Marbottle, Miniſters; the Right Hon. *William* Earl of *Home*, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Jedburgh, Mr. *John Douglas* at Kirkton, Mr. *James Wincheſter* at Jedburgh, Mr. *John Cranſton* junior, at Ancrum, Miniſter; the Lord *Minto*, and *William Oliver* of Dinlybyre, Ruling Elders. From the Burgh of Jedburgh, Mr. *John Stewart*, Advocate. From the Presbytery of Erſilton, Mr. *Francis Scot* at Weſtruther, Mr. *Walter Douglas* at Legertwood, Miniſters; Mr. *Robert Kennedy* of Greenknow, Ruling Elder. From the Burgh of Lauder, Mr. *Charles Binning* of Pilmore, Advo-

Advocate. From the Presbytery of Selkirk, Mr. *Walter Stewart* at Aſhkirk, Mr. *James Maſon* at Laſſudden, Miniſters; Mr. *Andrew Ker* of Kippilaw, Ruling Elder. From the Burgh of Selkirk, *Gideon Schaw* of Lauriſton. From the Presbytery of Middlebee, Mr. *Thomas Howie* at Annan, Mr. *Robert Petrie* at Cannabie, Miniſters; *William Scot* of Meikledale, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Lochmaben, Mr. *Andrew Clark* at Tindergirth, Mr. *Walter Cook* at Cumbertrees, Mr. *William Scot* at Kilpatrick-*juxta*, Miniſters; Mr. *William Kilpatrick*, one of the principal Clerks of Seſſion, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Penpont, Mr. *John Lawſon* at Cloſeburn, Mr. *Archibald Little* at Morton, Miniſters; Mr. *Robert Hunter* of Crawfordtoun, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Dumfries, Mr. *Thomas MacKinnel* at Orr, Mr. *John Dickie* at Dunſcore, Mr. *William MacMillan* at Torthorwald, Miniſters; the Honourable *Charles Erskine* of Tinwald, Eſq; Lord Advocate, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Kirkcudbright, Mr. *Andrew Reid* at Carsfairn, Mr. *Robert Thomſon* at Girthon, Mr. *Alexander Dick* at Dalray, Miniſters; Mr. *David Newall* of Knockreoch, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Wigton, Mr. *John Millar* at Penningham, Mr. *James Maitland* at Sorby, Miniſters; Doctor *Alexander Martin* of Little-airies, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Stranrawer, Mr. *John Dickſon* at Newluce, Mr. *Robert Ferguſſon* at Calmonel, Miniſters; Mr. *Andrew MacDouall* of Kingſeat, Advocate, Ruling Elder. From the Burgh of Stranrawer, Mr. *Robert Dalrymple* Writer to the Signet. From the Presbytery of Air, Mr. *John Adams* at Dalrymple, Mr. *John Campbell* at Galſton, Mr. *David Coupar* at Auchinleck, Mr. *William Steel* at Dalgain, Mr. *William Younger* at Muirkirk, Miniſters; Colonel *William Dalrymple* of Glenmuir, and Mr. *Alexander Boſwall* younger of Affleck, Advocate, Ruling Elders. From the Presbytery of Irvine, Mr. *John Montgomery* at Stewartoun, Mr. *Robert Hall* at *Kilmarnock*, Mr. *William Cotts* at Kilmares, Miniſters; Baillie *William Gilchriſt* Merchant in Kilmarnock, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Paiſley, Mr. *George MacVey* at Mearns, Mr. *John Pinkerton* at Lochwinnoch, Mr. *Patrick Scot* at Paiſley, Miniſters; Mr. *Archibald Campbell* of Elderſly, Ruling Elder. From the Burgh of Renfrew, Baillie *William Somervel*. From the Presbytery of Hamilton, Mr. *John Muirhead* at Glasfoord, Mr. *William Steel* at Dalſerf, Mr. *Robert Bell* at Strathaven, Miniſters; and Mr. *William Hamilton* of Wiſhaw, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Lanerk, Mr. *James Braidfoot* at Dunſyre, Mr. *Thomas Wharry* at Leſmahago, Mr. *Andrew Orr* at Carluke, Mi-

niſters; Mr. *James Bogle*, King's Remembrancer in Exchequer, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Glaſgow, Mr. *Niel Campbell* Principal of the College of Glaſgow, Mr. *Michael Potter*, Profeſſor of Divinity there, Mr. *James Rob* at Kilſyth, Miniſters; *Thomas Wallace* of Cairnhill, Ruling Elder. From the City of Glaſgow, *Archibald Hamilton*, Merchant, one of the preſent Baillies thereof: And from the Univerſity of Glaſgow, Mr. *John Loudon* one of the Regents therein. From the Presbytery of Dumbarton, Mr. *John Smith* at Fintray, Mr. *William Brown* at Kilmaronock, Mr. *Robert Yetts* at Old Kirkpatrick, Miniſters; Captain *James Colquhoun* of Luſs, Ruling Elder; From the Burgh of Dumbarton, Mr. *George Smollet* of Ingliſtoun, Advocate. From the Presbytery of Dunoon, Mr. *Alexander MacKay* at Dunoon, Mr. *James Stewart* at Kingarth, Miniſters; Sir *James Campbell* of Ardkinglaſs, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Kintyre, Mr. *John MacLean* at Killean, Mr. *Andrew Duncanſon* at Killchalmonel, Miniſters; Mr. *Alexander MacMillan* of Dunmore, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Inverary, Mr. *James Getty* at Inverary, Mr. *Archibald Lambie* at Kilmartine, Miniſters; *Colin Campbell* of Kilbride, Eſq; Ruling Elder. From the Burgh of Inverary, Captain *John Campbell* of Lymefield. From the Presbytery of Lorn, Mr. *James Campbell* at Kilmore, Mr. *Archibald Campbell* at Liſmore, Miniſters. The Right Honourable *Archibald* Earl of *Ilay*, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Mull, Mr. *Archibald MacTaviſh* at Toraſay, Mr. *John MacLean* at Kilninian, Miniſters; Sir *Duncan Campbell* of Lochnel, Ruling Elder: To be Commiſſioners of this General Aſſembly, to the Effects after-mentioned; with Power to the ſaid Commiſſioners, or their *Quorum*, which is hereby declared to be any Thirty one of the ſaid Commiſſioners, whereof Twenty one are always to be Miniſters, to meet and conveen within the Aſſembly-Houſe at *Edinburgh*, the firſt free Day after the Diſſolution of this Aſſembly, at Ten of the Clock Forenoon, and thereafter, the ſecond *Wedneſdays* of *Auguſt*, *November* and *March*, next to come, and oftner, when and where they ſhall think fit and convenient; with Power to the ſaid Commiſſioners to chuſe their own Moderator: And likewiſe the General Aſſembly fully empowers their ſaid Commiſſioners, or their *Quorum*, above mentioned, to cognoſce and finally determine, as they ſhall ſee Cauſe, in every Matter referred, or that ſhall be referred to them, by any Act or Order of this Aſſembly, and to do every Thing contained in, and conform to the Inſtructions given or to be given by this Aſſembly; and to advert to the Intereſt of the Church on every Occaſion, that the Church and preſent Eſtabliſhment thereof

thereof do not suffer or sustain any Prejudice which they can prevent, as they will be answerable: Providing always, That this General Clause be not extended to particular Affairs, or Processes before Synods or Presbyteries, that are not of universal Concern to, or Influence upon the whole Church. And it is hereby appointed, That no private Processes be determined, except at the four stated Diets, and what shall be determined at one Diet of the Commission, with relation to private Causes, shall be unalterable by any other Diet thereof, and shall stand and continue in Force, till disapproven by the General Assembly; and the General Assembly renews the Instructions given by the General Assembly, in the Year, One thousand seven hundred and seventeen to their Commission, and appoints the same to stand in full Force, as Instructions to the Commissioners beforenamed, and to be observed by them in all Points, as if the same were specially here insert: And that they enquire into the publishing and spreading of Books and Pamphlets, tending towards the promoting of Opinions of whatever Kind, inconsistent with our *Confession of Faith*, and that the Recommenders of such Books or Pamphlets, or the Errors therein contained, whether by Word, Writ, or Print, be called before the said Commission to answer for the same. And further, the said Commission is hereby impowered to receive any References and Appeals, that shall be made to them from Synods, in Matters of Doctrine, and ripen such Affairs for the General Assembly; likewise, to take Care, that the Impressions of the *Holy Scriptures*, the *Confession of Faith*, and *Catechisms*, and such Books as are authorized by this Church, relating to the Doctrine, Worship, Discipline and Government thereof, be correct, and give Directions about printing the same; and the said Commission are appointed and impowered to keep a Correspondence with the Committee, for Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Islands*, for suppressing Popery and Superstition, and for promoting the Knowledge of true Religion, and carrying on a Reformation in these Parts, and give Assistance and Concurrence therein; and, if Need be, to apply to the Government for a proper Remedy and speedy Redress. And the said Commissioners are hereby strictly prohibited and discharged to meddle in any other Matter, than what are committed and referred to them, as above-mentioned; and in all their Actings, they are to proceed according to the Acts and Constitutions of this Church, and to do nothing contrary thereto, or to the Prejudice of the same; declaring, that in, and for all their Actings, they shall be accountable to, and censurable by the next General Assembly, as they shall see Cause: And this Commission is to continue and endure, until another Commission be appointed, and

and Members are required to attend the Diets of the ſaid Commiſſion, and Abſents therefrom ordered to be noticed, according to the 17th Act of the General Aſſembly, in the Year, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſix; and for the better ſecuring of a *Quorum*, and Attendance of Members on the Commiſſion, the General Aſſembly prohibites the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, or any other Presbytery within Twelve Miles thereof, to meet any of the Days or Weeks appointed for the Meeting of this Commiſſion; and ſuch of the Members of theſe Presbyteries, as are on the Commiſſion, are required, all of them, to give Attendance on the Diets thereof; and the Presbyteries, at a greater Diſtance, who have four or more Members on the Commiſſion, are to take Care, that at leaſt two of them attend each Diet of the ſame; and the Aſſembly appoint their Commiſſion, at their firſt Meeting, to diſcuſs as many of the Cauſes and Queſtions, relative to the Settlement of vacant Churches, which are, or ſhall be referred to them by the Aſſembly, as they can overtake. And it is further provided, That when any Presbytery or Synod of this Church ſhall decline to comply with the Sentences of the Commiſſion, or to give the ſame a full Execution; in that Caſe, the Commiſſion is hereby prohibited to execute the ſame, by appointing any ſuch Correſpondent-Meetings, as has been the Practice of late, but ſhall allow the ſame to ly over to the enſuing Aſſembly, to which ſuch Presbyteries or Synods ſhall be anſwerable for ſuch their Conduct, and are hereby appointed to ſend up with their Commiſſioners their Reaſons for the ſame; and the Aſſembly do further impower and direct the ſaid Commiſſion, to make due Application to the King and Parliament for Redreſs of the Grievance of Patronage, in caſe a favourable Opportunity for ſo doing ſhall occur, during the Subſiſtence of this Commiſſion: And the General Aſſembly do enjoin their Commiſſion, That in paſſing their Sentences, and in ordering the Execution of the ſame, they ſtrictly obſerve the 12th Act of the Aſſembly 1736.

Congra-

VII.

Congratulatory ADDRESS to His Majesty, upon Occasion of taking the Forts near Carthagena.

Edinburgh, May 25th, 1741. *Sess. ult.*

May it please your Majesty,

WE, your Majesty's most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Church of *Scotland*, met in a National Assembly, beg Leave, with Hearts full of Joy, and Thankfulness to Almighty GOD, to approach your Sacred Person, to congratulate your Majesty, on the successful Progress of your Arms, against your insolent Enemies the *Spaniards*; and particularly, on the late signal Victory obtained at *Carthagena*; in which there appear evident Marks of the powerful Interposition of the good Providence of GOD, in Favours of your Majesty, and these Kingdoms, by protecting your Fleet, under the Command of the brave and victorious Admiral *Vernon*, and by animating your Sailors and Soldiers with uncommon Courage and Resolution, which gives us the agreeable Prospect, that this may be a Means of further advancing the Glory of your Majesty's Reign, by humbling the Hearts of your haughty Enemies, and procuring a speedy, honourable, and lasting Peace, which may secure the Rights and Privileges, the Trade and Navigation of your Subjects, and prevent the further Effusion of human Blood.

May GOD long preserve your Majesty, to promote the Good of Mankind, to be the Guardian of the Peace and Liberties of *Europe*, and of all the valuable Rights and Privileges of your Subjects, and to be the Protector of the Protestant Interest at Home and Abroad: May he bless their Royal Highnesses, the Prince and Princess of *Wales*, the Duke, the Princesses, the Issue of the Prince and Princess of *Wales*, and all your Royal Family; That GOD may continue to direct your Councils, and prosper your Arms, watch over you while Abroad, and return you with Safety

and Honour to theſe your Dominions; and that, after your Majeſty hath been long honoured to be an Inſtrument of doing great Good upon Earth, you may be crowned with everlaſting Happineſs, is and ſhall be the earneſt Prayer of,

May it pleaſe your Majeſty,

Your Majeſty's moſt faithful, moſt obedient, and moſt loyal Subjects,

The Miniſters and Elders met in the National Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our Name, in our Preſence, and at our Appointment, by

JAMES RAMSAY, *Moderator.*

VIII.

ACT appointing the Diet of the next General Aſſembly.

Edinburgh, May 25th, 1741. *Seſſ. ult.*

THE next General Aſſembly of this National Church is appointed to be held in this Place, upon the firſt *Thurſday* of *May* next, being the ſixth Day of the ſaid Month, in the Year One thouſand ſeven hundred and forty two.

The General Aſſembly was concluded with Prayer, and ſinging of the 133 *Pſalm throughout, and pronouncing the Bleſſing.*

Collected and extracted from the Records of the General Aſſembly by

WILLIAM GRANT, *Cls. Eccl. Scot.*

OVERTURE

OVERTURE about the Manner of purging of Scandals.

Edinburgh, May 23d, 1741.

THERE was brought in to the General Aſſembly, from their Committee for Overtures, an Overture for eſtabliſhing an uniform Rule for deciding in Caſes of Scandal; which being read, the General Aſſembly recommend to the ſeveral Preſbyteries to conſider the Rules already ſet down in the Form of Proceſs, or other Acts made upon that Subject, and ſend their Opinion to the next General Aſſembly, upon what relates to the Manner of purging of Scandals.

OVERTURE about Members of Inferior Judicatories judging in Superior Courts.

Edinburgh, 23d May, 1741.

AN Overture brought in from the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, having been Yeſterday tranſmitted from the Committee for Overtures, was this Day again called for, and read; and after being reaſoned upon at full Length, the General Aſſembly tranſmitted the ſame to the ſeveral Synods and Presbyteries of this National Church, that they may ſend their Opinion thereupon to the next General Aſſembly. The Tenor whereof follows,

Edinburgh, May 7th, 1741.

The Provincial Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale* do unanimouſly agree, that ſuch of their Number, as are Members of the enſuing General Aſſembly, ſhall repreſent to the Venerable Aſſembly,

That there appears to this Synod many obvious Inconveniencies attending the preſent Practice of this Church, whereby the Members of Inferior Judicatories are conſidered as Parties before the Superior Courts, when any Cauſe in which they have given Judgment comes to be viewed upon an Appeal; and ſeeing this is likewiſe contrary to the Practice of all other Courts,

This

This Synod humbly move, That the Aſſembly ſhall take this Matter under their Conſideration, and tranſmit an Overture to the ſeveral Presbyteries, that they may give their Opinion as to the propoſed Alteration.

OVERTURE for an Act concerning Licenſing of Probationers for the Holy Miniſtry.

Edinburgh May 25th 1741.

THE General Aſſembly conſidering, how much the ſeveral Judicatories of this National Church are obliged to uſe the utmoſt Care and Caution in all their Proceedings towards the Licenſing Probationers and Candidates for the Holy Miniſtry, that they may neither licenſe too many, nor admit any into that Station, that are not ſufficiently qualified for it.

And conſidering farther, how expedient it would be for the better Obſervation of former Rules and Orders relative hereto, that theſe ſhould be collected together from the many former Acts of Aſſembly, where they now ly in many ſeparate Articles, very diſtant from one another, and much intermixed with other Incidents; and that ſuch further Clauſes as appear needful ſhould be thereto added, and the whole enacted into one regular Plan, eaſy and obvious to be obſerved by all concerned:

Therefore, the General Aſſembly, after tranſmitting the Matter as an Overture to the ſeveral Presbyteries, and their Conſent had thereto, and much ſerious Deliberation thereupon ſince the firſt reading thereof, which was upon the current, they did, and hereby do moſt earneſtly recommend, and ſtrictly enjoin, ordain, and appoint theſe following Orders and Regulations to be carefully and punctually obſerved by all concerned, as ſtanding Rules and binding Conſtitutions of this Church.

Imprimis, That ſtrict Enquiry be made by Presbyteries into the Piety, Gravity, Prudence, Sobriety, peaceable Diſpoſition and Orthodoxy of ſuch as are offered to Presbyteries, in order to paſſing their Trials, and that ſuch be kept back and rejected, as are eſteemed to be vain and imprudent, or proud or worldly-minded.

2*do*. When any Student is firſt propoſed to be entred on Trials before the Presbytery where he reſides, or to be tried, in order to his having a Recommendation to paſs Trials in another Presbytery, the foreſaid Propoſal ſhall ly upon the Table till the next ordinary Meeting of the Presbytery,

tery, before they give Judgment therein; and the Presbytery is to be alone, both when the ſaid Propoſal is made and judged upon; and in the Interval betwixt Presbyteries, the young Man, as far as is practicable, is to wait upon the ſeveral Miniſters of the Presbytery, that they may have Occaſion to diſcourſe him in private.

3*tio*. That when any Student comes to wait upon the Profeſſor of Divinity in any Univerſity, he ſhall bring along with him a Teſtimonial from the Miniſter of the Pariſh from whence he comes; and when he leaves the Profeſſion he ſhall alſo take Teſtimonials with him from the Miniſter of the Pariſh where he has reſided during the Time of his Attendance on the Profeſſion, concerning his moral and pious Character, and from the Profeſſor, teſtifying as above, and alſo his regular Attendance on the Diets of the Profeſſion, and the Time he has attended: And when any Profeſſor of Divinity thinks fit to recommend any Student to paſs Probationary Trials, that his Teſtimonial ſhall bear not only his Judgment as to his moral and pious Character, but as to his Proficiency in his Studies, and that it is his Judgment, That ſuch an One may be uſeful in the Work of the Miniſtry.

4*to*. When the Presbytery, after mature Deliberation, during the Time above ſpecified in the ſecond Article, ſhall agree to take the propoſed Candidate on Trials, they are then to take a private and previous Trial of him ſometime betwixt and the next Ordinary Presbytery, which may be moſt convenient for themſelves and the Candidate, ſo as a competent Time be ſpent in his Examination, enquiring what Progreſs he hath made in the *Latin*, *Greek* and *Hebrew* Languages; and that every ſuch Perſon paſſing Trials ſhall, after the Year 1743, be obliged to explain the *Hebrew Pſalter*, *ad aperturam Libri*; and in the Study of Philoſophy; and likewiſe trying him as to his Knowledge in Divinity, Theoretical, Polemical and Practical; and eſpecially in the modern Controverſies: And that the Presbytery are to be alone when they examine Perſons Fitneſs to be entred on Trials before themſelves, or recommended to another Presbytery for that Effect.

5*to*. If the Presbytery be ſatisfied with the foreſaid private Examination, and the Report thereof made, in the Order and Manner above directed; and if the Candidate, ſo examined, has reſided in their Bounds, at leaſt Half an Year immediately before the ſaid Examination, and has been following the Study of Divinity, and of the Languages, for Six Years at leaſt after paſſing his Courſe of Philoſophy at the College; and if he has produced ſufficient and ſatisfying Teſtimonials from the Miniſter of the Pariſh where he lives, and from the Profeſſor of Divinity where

he may have attended the Profeſſion for ſome Time, as above directed in the Third Article: If the Presbytery be ſatisfied as to all the above Particulars, and thereupon reſolve and agree to admit the Candidate to Probationary Trials, their next Step is, To order Letters to be written to the ſeveral Presbyteries within the Bounds of the Synod, Three Months before the Meeting of Synod, of their Deſign of entring ſuch a young Man on Trials; and that the ſame Deſign ſhall likewiſe be publickly intimated at the ſecond Diet of the Synod, to ly on the Table until another Diet, and then Enquiry made, If any of the Synod have any Thing to object againſt ſuch a Perſon's being entred on his Trials for Preaching the Goſpel.

6to, That ſuch Students as come from abroad, ſhall produce ſatisfying Teſtimonials from the Profeſſors under whom they ſtudied, and the Time of their being abroad, ſhall be accounted a Part of the ſix Years Study above required; but none of theſe Students ſhall be entred on Trials for the Space of a whole Year after they come to *Scotland*; and ſuch as come licenced from abroad, ſhall not be allowed to preach in *Scotland*, till it appear documented, that they had been at the Study of Divinity for ſix Years, after finiſhing their Courſe of Philoſophy, and come under the Engagements, and ſign the *Formula* according to the 10th Act of the General Aſſembly 1711; and it appear by their Licence, that the ſaid Probationers have been licenced by a regular conſtitute Presbytery, or Claſſical Meeting.

7mo, That Presbyteries cauſe read to the Candidates, about to be tried, the Engagements required of ſuch as are to be licenced by *Act* 10th *Aſſ.* 1711, and that they take a Promiſe of them, that they will ſubſcribe and punctually obſerve the ſame, in caſe they be licenced, and that Presbyteries record the ſaid Promiſe in their Books, and cauſe all this to be done, before any Part of the publick Trials be preſcribed.

8vo, That the publick probationary Trials to be preſcribed to Students, before they be licenced to preach as Probationers, are to be theſe following, namely, The Catechetical Queſtions to be renewed in Preſence of the Preſbytery, and that previouſly to all other Parts of the publick Trial, a Homily in *Engliſh* on a Scripture-Text, an *Exegeſis* in *Latin* upon a controverted Head of Divinity, and the ſuſtaining a *Theſis* and Diſpute thereon, an Exerciſe and Addition, a Lecture and popular Sermon, a Trial in Chronology; and, *laſtly*, The interpreting a Portion of the Old Teſtament in the *Hebrew*, and a Portion of the New Teſtament in *Greek*, *ad aperturam libri*. When the Candidates have paſt through all theſe uſual Parts of Trials with Approbation, and given ſatisfying Anſwers to the

Queſtions

Queſtions appointed by *Act* 10th, *Aſſ.* 1711, to be put to ſuch as are to be licenced, and likewiſe judicially ſubſcribed the *Formula* annexed to the ſaid Act, and thereby come under the Engagements to the Doctrine, Worſhip, Diſcipline and Presbyterian Government of this Church, contained in the ſaid Act, Queſtions and *Formula*, and the Presbytery being well ſatisfied with his Literature, and other neceſſary Qualifications, he is thereupon to be licenced by them to preach the Goſpel of CHRIST, and exerciſe his Gifts as a Probationer for the Holy Miniſtry.

9*no*, When any Presbytery, who, with the Synod's Allowance, has entered, or is about to enter a Student on Trials, ſhall receive a Letter from any Presbytery, without the Bounds of the Synod, ſhewing their Diſſatisfaction with the Student entered, or to be entered on Trials, and giving Grounds for the ſame, the ſaid Student ſhall not be licenced, until the Matter be laid before the Synod of the Bounds, and they give their Directions thereon, unleſs the abovementioned Presbytery, who ſhewed this Diſſatisfaction, do afterward ſignify their Conſent that the ſaid Trials ſhould go on.

Finally, For the better Obſervation of this Act, 'tis particularly recommended to the Profeſſors of Divinity, to communicate the Contents thereof to their Students in a publick Meeting annually, at ſuch Time in the Month of *January*, as ſhall ſeem moſt convenient to them for the Effect foreſaid, and all Presbyteries and Synods are peremptorily appointed to obſerve this Act in all its Parts. The General Aſſembly having heard the ſaid Overture, agreed to tranſmit the ſame to the ſeveral Presbyteries, for their Opinion thereupon.

A TABLE

TABLE of the Printed ACTS of the *General Assembly*, held in the Year 1741.

I. *THE King's Commission to* Alexander *Earl of* Leven *produced and ordered to be recorded,* - 3

II. *The King's Most Gracious Letter to the General Assembly, presented to them by His Majesty's Commissioner.* - - - - - - 5

III. *The General Assembly's Answer to the King's most Gracious Letter,* - - - - - - 6

IV. *Act and Recommendation for the Observation of a Fast within the Bounds of the several Presbyteries of this Church,* - - - - 8

V. *Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders for Reformation of the* Highlands *and* Islands, *and for managing His Majesty's Royal Bounty for that End,* - - - - - - - 9

VI. *Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders, for discussing Affairs referred to them,* 12

VII. *Congratulatory Address to His Majesty, upon Occasion of taking the Forts near* Carthagena, 21

VIII. *Act appointing the Diet of the next General Assembly,* - - - - - - - - - 22

Overture about the Manner of Purging Scandals, 23

Overture about Members of Inferior Judicatories judging in Superior Courts, - - - - - Ibid.

Overture for an Act concerning Licensing of Probationers for the Holy Ministry, - - - - 24

Index

Index or *Abridgment*

OF THE

Acts and Proceedings of the General Assembly of the Church of *Scotland*, held in the Year 1741, which are not printed at full Length.

AFTER Sermon, by Mr. *George Logan*, one of the Ministers of the Gospel at *Edinburgh*, Moderator of the late General Assembly, the Ministers and Ruling Elders, Members of this Assembly, did conveen, and Mr. *James Ramsay*, Minister at *Kelso*, was chosen Moderator. *May* 14. 1741. *Sess.* 1.

The King's Commission to the Earl of *Leven*, to represent his Royal Person in this Assembly, read, and recorded. *Ibid.*

His Majesty's Most Gracious Letter, to this Assembly, read, and recorded. *Ibid.*

The King's Commissioner's Speech at Opening this Assembly, and the Moderator's Speech in Return thereto. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to draw an Answer to the King's Most Gracious Letter. *Ibid.*

His Majesty's Warrant for 1000 *L. Sterl.* as His Royal Bounty for maintaining itinerant Preachers and Catechists, in the Highlands and Islands, given in by the King's Commissioner, read, and recorded. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed for examining Commissions to Members of this Assembly, name Ministers to preach before his Grace the King's Commissioner, examine the Lists of Probationers, receive in also Lists of Students in Divinity at the several Universities, consider the Excuses of Absents from this Assembly, and report. *Ibid.*

A Committee for Overtures named. *Ibid.*

A Committee for Bills, References and Appeals, named. *Ibid.*

A Diet spent in Prayer. *May* 15. *Sess.* 2.

Ministers named to preach before His Majesty's Commissioner. *Ibid.*

The Act 7th of Assembly 1718, for better Dispatch of Business of the Assembly, read, and the Observation thereof enjoin'd. *Ibid.*

INDEX.

The Report of the Committee for Overtures, upon that laid before them by the Committee for reviſing Commiſſions, read; and the Commiſſion from the Burgh of *Dyſart*, to their Commiſſioner, ſuſtain'd, tho' not atteſted by the Kirk-ſeſſion nor Presbytery of the Bounds, in reſpect their reſpective Atteſtations were required under Form of Inſtrument, taken in the Hands of a Notary-publick: And the Aſſembly enact, That for hereafter, when a Kirk-ſeſſion or Presbytery refuſe their Atteſtation to a Commiſſion from a Burgh or Univerſity, without aſſigning the Reaſons of their Refuſal, the Commiſſions ſhall be ſuſtain'd, as if duly atteſted.----And as to the Commiſſions from the Presbyteries of *Meigle*, *Long-Iſland*, *Gairloch*, *Forfar*, *North-Iſles*, *Fordoun*, *Wigtoun*, *Irvine*, *Lanerk*, *Dunoon* and *Mull*, and Burghs of *Inverary* and *Stranrawer*, and Church at *Campvere*, which do not bear, That the Ruling Elders, therein named, are qualified according to the 9th Act of the Aſſembly 1722: The Aſſembly declare their Diſſatisfaction with theſe particular Presbyteries, and order the Reprinting of the Form of Commiſſions eſtabliſhed by the Aſſembly 1725, and Copies thereof to be ſent to the ſeveral Presbyteries, with the Acts of this Aſſembly; and the Excuſes of abſent Members from the Presbyteries of *Zetland*, *North-Iſles*, *Kirkwall*, *Cairſtoun*, *Tongue*, *Gairloch*, *Long-Iſland*, *Abertarph*, *Mull*, *Lorn*, and thoſe in ſuch remote Places, ſuſtain'd; but ordered, That Members who came up, and fail'd to attend the Diets of this Aſſembly, an Account of their Abſence, be ſent to their reſpective Presbyteries. *Ibid.*

The Draught of an Anſwer to His Majeſty's Moſt Gracious Letter to this Aſſembly, brought in and approven; and his Grace, the King's Commiſſioner, undertakes to tranſmit the ſame to His Majeſty. *Ibid.*

A Committee of Perſons, in each Synod, appointed to reviſe the Regiſter of the Proceedings of the Commiſſion of the late Aſſembly, audite the Procurator's and Agent's Accompts, conſider the State of the Church's publick Money, and prepare Overtures therefrom, agreeable to the 7th Act of Aſſembly 1712, and 8th Act of Aſſembly 1719, and all Claims upon the ſaid Money ordered to be laid before the ſaid Committee; and they are alſo appointed to prepare any Overtures or References made by the late Commiſſion to this Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to reviſe the Regiſter of the Committee of the late General Aſſembly, for managing the Royal Bounty, granted for the Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Iſlands*. *Ibid.*

Com-

INDEX.

Committees named for reviſing the Synod Books of *Fife*, *Glenelg*, *Lothian* and *Tweddale*, and *Merſe*, and *Teviotdale*. *Ibid.*

The Synod Books of *Perth* and *Stirling*, *Angus* and *Mearns*, *Aberdeen*, *Murray*, *Roſs*, *Sutherland*, *Caithneſs*, *Orkney*, *Dumfries*, *Galloway*, *Glaſgow* and *Air*, *Argyle*; and Presbytery Book of *Zetland* not being produced, 'tis reſolved, That the Reaſons thereof be enquired into. *Ibid.*

The Committee for Overtures, appointed to meet this Evening to receive in the Inſtructions from the ſeveral Presbytries and Synods, and conſider the ſame, and report. *Ibid.*

Recommendation to all the Miniſters of the ſeveral Pariſhes within this Church, to give Aſſiſtance to Mr. *William Maitland*, in his intended Deſign of writing a Hiſtory of *Scotland*, by drawing up, and ſending to him Anſwers to his printed Queries, concerning their reſpective Pariſhes. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion to determine in any Proceſs, concerning the Planting of the Town and Pariſh of *Perth*. *Ibid.*

Recommendation to the Synod of *Glenelg*, to conſider the Facts ſet forth in the Petition of the Presbytery of *Long-Iſland*, for dividing that Presbtery into two, and report to the next General Aſſembly; and the former Order for uſing the legal Diligence for obtaining Kirks, Manſes, Gleibs, and Graſs for the Miniſters, and Schools in Pariſhes therein, conform to Law; and remit to the Committee for Reformation of the *Highlands*, to ſupply theſe Bounds with a competent Number of Miſſionaries. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion to determine finally in any Proceſs to be brought before them, about planting the Vacant Pariſhes of *Burntiſland* and *Abbotſhall*. *Ibid.*

Reſolution to take in and hear upon *Monday* next, a Cauſe about planting the Pariſh of *Bowden*. *Ibid.*

Reſolution to take in a Cauſe about Settlement of the Pariſh of *Auchterderran* in *Fife*, next to the Cauſe of *Bowden*. *Ibid.*

The Synod-Book of *Dumfries* produced, and a Committee named to reviſe the ſame *May* 18. *Seſſ.* 4.

The Complaint of the Pariſhioners of *Bowden*, Oppoſers of the Settlement of Mr. *James Hume* Probationer, to be their Miniſter, againſt the Commiſſion of the laſt Aſſembly, ordering his Settlement in that Pariſh; with the Complaint of the Promoters of his Settlement againſt the Presbytery of *Selkirk*, for delaying to obey the Commiſſion's ſaid Sentence, heard, and the Aſſembly found, that the Commiſſion had not exceeded their Powers, and that therefore their Sentence cannot be reverſed; and

that the ſaid Presbytery neglected their Duty, to give Obedience to the Sentence of the Commiſſion, and to ſend up to this Aſſembly the Reaſons of their Delay; and order'd them to ſettle the ſaid Mr. *Hume* at *Bowden*, if found qualified, 'twixt and the firſt of *September* next, with Certification they will be cenſur'd as contumacious. And the ſaid Presbytery is ordered to report to the Synod of *Merſe* and *Teviotdale*, who, in Caſe the Presbytery fail in finiſhing the Settlement, are appointed to take the proper Meaſures for having the ſaid Sentence of the Commiſſion duly executed. *Ibid.*

Remit to the Committee for Overtures, to prepare an Overture for the more effectually obliging inferior Judicatories of this Church to give Obedience to the Sentences of the ſuperior Judicatories thereof.

Report of the Viſitors of the Commiſſion-Book brought in, and the Conſideration thereof delay'd 'till after diſcuſſing a Complaint againſt their Procedure about planting of *Dingwall*. *May* 19. *Seſſ.* 5.

The Procurator's and Agent's Accompts as reviſed by the Committee, produced and ordered to lie upon the Table, to be peruſed by any Member. *Ibid.*

The Call of the Pariſh of *Auchterderran* to Mr. *Matthew Mitchel* Probationer, ſuſtained, and the Presbytery of *Kirkcaldy* appointed to proceed to his Trials and Settlement, as Miniſter of that Pariſh, with all convenient Diſpatch, according to the Rules of this Church. *Ibid.*

A Collection made in the Aſſembly-Houſe for Relief of ſeveral indigent Widows and Children of Miniſters. *Idid.*

The Sentence of the Synod of *Aberdeen*, diſapproving the Conduct of the Presbytery of *Deer*, in rejecting a Petition of the Heritors, Elders and Heads of Families of the Pariſh of *Raithen*, for the Moderation of a Call to Mr. *George Largue* Miniſter at *Kinnairny*, to be Miniſter of the ſaid Pariſh, and appointing the ſaid Presbytery to proceed to moderate in a Call for ſettling the ſaid Pariſh of *Raithen*, affirm'd, and the ſaid Presbytery ordered, betwixt and the firſt of *Auguſt* next, to proceed to the foreſaid Moderation of a Call, admitting Mr. *Largue* upon the Leet, and take other proper Steps towards the comfortable Settlement of that Pariſh; and in caſe of their neglecting, the Synod is ordered to take proper Meaſures for having this Sentence executed. And the Commiſſion is inſtructed to determine in any Proceſs touching the Settlement of *Raithen*. And the Aſſembly declare their Diſſatisfaction with the ſaid Presbytery's Conduct. *Ibid.*

Intimation made to the Brethren from the reſpective Presbyteries lyable in Payment of their Burſes allotted for Main-

INDEX.

Maintenance of the Student in Divinity from *Lithuania*, to pay up their Deficiencies to the former and present Collectors thereof; and remit to the Committee for Overtures to consider of Methods for effectually securing the due and regular Payment of the said Burse. *May* 20th. *Sess.* 6.

The Sentence of the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, affirming a Judgment of the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, appointing the Moderation of a Call of Heritors and Elders of the Parish of *Liberton* to Mr. *John Jarden* Probationer, to be Assistant-Minister to Mr. *Samuel Semple* during his Life, and Successor to him, as Minister of the said Parish, after his Death, affirmed, and the said Presbytery appointed to proceed in all the Steps proper towards the said Mr. *Jarden*'s Settlement in the said Parish. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission of a Process, wherein are two competing Calls of the Parish of *Fearn*, the one to Mr. *Donald Ross* Minister of *Lochbroom*, the other to Mr. *Donald Fraser* Probationer, in which Process there have been certain proceedings by the Presbytery of *Tain* and Synod of *Ross*, touching the said Mr. *Fraser*'s Character, and a Proof led of some Facts charged in a Libel exhibited against him; and, in the mean Time, a Committee is named to make a State of the Proof, and report. And the Commission is instructed and impower'd to determine in any Process, about Settlement of the Parish of *Fearn*. *May* 21. *Sess.* 7.

Overture for the better Recovery of the Burse allotted for the *Lithuanian* Bursar approven, and Order conform thereto made, that a Scheme or List of Deficients be sent to the several Presbyteries liable, and these Presbyteries of new enjoyned to pay up their respective Deficiencies to the general Collectors, at or before the Commission in *August* next, and the Commission appointed to cause summond the deficient Members to compear before their Meeting in *November* next, and, after having sharply rebuked them, if they continue contumacious, to proceed in *March* to further Censure, as they shall see Cause. And mean time order for advancing an Half-year's Allowance to Mr. *Bieniazeuski* the present Bursar, out of the Church's publick Money, until the proper Fund for his Maintenance be got in. *Ibid.*

The Sentence of the Presbytery of *Dingwall*, refusing to transport Mr. *Murdoch M'Kenzie* Minister of *Contane*, to *Dingwall* reversed; and the said Mr. *M'Kenzie* is transported to the said Town and Parish of *Dingwall*, and the foresaid Presbytery appointed to admit him Minister of *Dingwall* betwixt and the first Day of *August* next, with Certification. *Ibid.*

INDEX.

Report of the Viſitors of the Commiſſion-Book brought in and approved, excepting that ſome Doubts having ariſen, concerning certain Steps in the Commiſſion's Procedure about Settlement of *Bowden*, which the Aſſembly not having Time to diſcuſs, they ſuperſeded approving or diſapproving of the particular Manner of their Proceeding in that Cauſe. *Ibid.*

The foreſaid Commiſſion-Book atteſted, with a Reſervation as to their Deciſion in the Caſe of the Pariſh of *Bowden*. *Ibid.*

The Members from the ſeveral Synods appointed to meet by themſelves, in order to bring in the Nominators of the Commiſſion of this Aſſembly, according to the 6th Act of Aſſembly 1705. *Ibid.*

A Liſt of Members in the ſeveral Synods brought in, and appointed as a Committee to draw the Commiſſion and Inſtructions, and name the Members of the Commiſſion of this Aſſembly, *May* 22d. *Seſſ.* 8.

An Overture with reſpect to Members of inferior Judicatories of this Church, being Parties before the ſuperior Courts in Cauſes appealed, read, and ordered to lie on the Table. *Ibid.*

The Sentence of the Synod of *Fife*, approving a Judgment of the Presbytery of *Kirkcaldy*, laying aſide a Preſentation from the Patron, and a Call of the Magiſtrates, Council, and ſome others of the Town and Pariſh of *Kirkcaldy*, to Mr. *George Kay* Miniſter at *Colleſſie*, to be firſt Miniſter of *Kirkcaldy*, and tranſlating Mr. *David Marſhall*, preſent Miniſter in *Kirkcaldy*, to the firſt Charge and Benefice vacant by the Death of the late Reverend Mr. *Alexander Adams*, affirmed. *Ibid.*

Report concerning the Diligence of the Procurator and Agents for the Church, in the Affairs committed to them, brought in and approven, and the former Orders, with reſpect to the Proceſſes againſt *Roderick M'Neil* of *Bara*, Removing Grievances of Miniſters in the Synod of *Glenelg*, and uſing the legal Means for obtaining Payment of their Stipends, furniſhing Churches, Manſes, Glebes, and other Accomodations upon the publick Charges, renewed. *Ibid.*

The Differences 'twixt the Laird of *M'Kinan* and the Miniſter of *Strath*, concerning Payment of bygone Stipends, Church Manſe, *&c.* being made up, and no Complaint ſince offer'd from that Country, except that one Mr. *Kelly*, a Popiſh Prieſt in *Cana*, had lately attempted to inſult the Miniſter in the Exerciſe of his Office, the Procurator and Agents for the Church are appointed, as they ſee Cauſe, to uſe legal Diligence for preventing ſuch Inſults, and Recommendation to the Commiſſion and Committee

mittee, for Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Iſlands*, to give Advice and Aſſiſtance for promoting the Proteſtant Intereſt in theſe Popiſh Countries. *Ibid.*

The former Orders for carrying on Proceſſes for Stipends to the Miniſters of *Kilmalie* and *Ardnamurchan* renewed, and Reference to the Commiſſion to give Advice and Aſſiſtance, with reſpect to the proper Means to be uſed for obtaining a new Erection in *Ardnamurchan*, and a Committee named to meet with the Heritor principally concerned, for obtaining a third Pariſh in *Iſlay*; And the Orders formerly made, for uſing all Diligence in order to recover the Mortifications of Captain *Dougal Campbell* for pious Uſes, in the Synod of *Argyle*, and furniſhing Manſes and Glebes to the Miniſters of South and North *Knapdales*, renewed. *Ibid.*

Remit to the Procurator and Agents for the Church, to continue their Endeavours for obtaining a Gift of ſome ſmall Duties, formerly belonging to certain dignified Clergy of the Cathedral of *Dunkeld*, as an Augmentation to the Stipends of the Miniſters of *Abernyte* and *Benvie*. *Ibid.*

The Orders of former Aſſemblies, for defraying the Expences of Proceſſes for Settlement of the Stipend of the Miniſter of *Aboyne* and *Glentanner*, procuring the Privilege of Feuel, Feal and Divot to the Miniſter of *Kildrummie*, recovering a Mortification by *Leith-hall* to the Poor of the Pariſh of *Kennethmont*, defending the Rights of the Kirk-Seſſion of *Elgin*, in chuſing their own Clerk, Precentor and Beadles, renewed. *Ibid.*

The Orders of the late Commiſſion for 30 *l. Sterling*, to Mr. *John Munro*, Miniſter at *Rogart*, as the Expences of a Proceſs for his Stipend, and 60 *l.* to Mr. *John Currie*, Miniſter at *Kinglaſſie*, for his Writings publiſhed in Vindication of this Church, approven. *Ibid.*

Remit to the Procurator and Agents, for the Church to uſe legal Diligence, on the publick Charges, for removing the Grievances of the Miniſter of *Dunroſsneſs* in *Zetland*. *Ibid.*

An Account of the State of the publick Money being laid before the General Aſſembly, the Procurator and Agents for the Church are diſcharged to lay out any Part of the publick Money without the ſpecial Order of the General Aſſembly, or, agreeable to the Directions given in the 7th Act of the Aſſembly 1712, and Act of Aſſembly 1719; and a Reſolution, that no *Viaticums* be granted to Commiſſioners from any Presbytery, above ſix in Number, and not to them, unleſs they live at an hundred Miles Diſtance from *Edinburgh*, and their Stipends be under 800 Merks yearly, and that the Allowance be reſtricted to 6 *l. Sterl.* This extends only to the Prebyteries of *Mull*, *Abertarph*,

tarph, Tong, Kirkwall, Cairſton, North Iſles: But in Conſideration of the preſent Circumſtances of the Presbyteries of *Gairloch, Skye, Longiſland* and *Zetland*, they be excepted from this Rule. And order, That what has been, or may be advanc'd out of the publick Money to the *Lithuanian* Burſar for his Subſiſtence, be recovered from the Collectors, and charged on the Procurator or Agent's in their next Years Accompts; and be reported to the Commiſſion or General Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

The Orders for proſecuting Perſons for irregular Marriages are renewed, according to the Act 22 *May* 1739, and 19 *May* 1740.

The Reſolution of the General Aſſembly 1729, *Seſſ.* 10. againſt granting new Recommendations for Collections for Bridges and Harbours, or for foreign Parts, without the Civil Authority, is renewed; without Prejudice to Recommendations already granted, taking Effect for the Ends therein mention'd. *Ibid.*

Reference to a Committee, to enquire concerning Collections made for charitable Purpoſes, purſuant to the Recommendations of Aſſemblies and Commiſſions, and call Collectors to Account; alſo, to enquire concerning publick Parochial Libraries; and recommendation to Synods, to call Presbyteries to an Account in theſe Matters, and about Regiſters and old Manuſcripts concerning the Church. *Ibid.*

Remit to the Commiſſion to conſider Overtures, for ſuppreſſing Infidelity, Immorality and Schiſm, and report to the next Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

Order for Payment of the Accompt of *John Trail* Stationer, amounting to 13 *l.* 11 *s.* 4 *d. Sterl.*

Report made of the Accompt of *Robert MacIntoſh*, Collector of the Monies contributed for Relief of Mr. *Francis Robertſon*, Miniſter at *Clyne*, amounting to 54 *l.* 5 *s. Sterl.* paid to his Order, as *per* Diſcharge thereof. *Ibid.*

Order for Payment of 20 *l. Sterl.* in full, of the Expence and Trouble in carrying on the Proceſs againſt Mr. *James Hog* Miniſter, before the Synod of *Perth* and *Stirling*, and their Committee, and remit to the Commiſſion to conſider the ſaid Proceſs, and report their Opinion to the next General Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accompts of Mr *William Grant* Procurator for the Church, his Intromiſſions with his Majeſty's Allowance, for defraying the publick Charges of the Church, for the Terms of *Michaelmas* and *Chriſtmas* 1739, *Lady-day* and *Mid-ſummer* 1740, and diſcharging him and Cautioner thereof, and giving Credit to him for a Ballance of 14 *s.* 6 *d.* due to him. *Ibid.*

Act

INDEX.

Act approving the Accompts of *Nicol Spence*, Agent for the Church, his Intromiſſions with the Church's Money, preceeding the firſt of *May* current, except a Balance of 48 *l.* 16 *s.* 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* due by him. *Ibid.*

The Committee named to inſpect the Proceſs about Settlement of the Pariſh of *Fearn*, and anent Mr. *Donald Fraſer*'s Character, appointed to lay their Report before the Commiſſion. *Ibid.*

The Draught of an Act for a Faſt, brought in from the Committee for Overtures, and approven. *Ibid.*

Recommendation to Presbyteries, to give their Opinion upon what relates to the purging of Scandals. *Ibid.*

Overture about Members of inferior Judicatories, judging in Cauſes, appealed from them to ſuperior Courts, tranſmitted to Presbyteries. *Ibid.*

The Regiſter of the Proceedings of the Committee of the late General Aſſembly, for managing the Royal Bounty granted for Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Iſlands*, atteſted. *Ibid.*

Report of thoſe named, to draw a Commiſſion to a Committee, for Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Iſlands*, and Management of his Majeſty's Royal Bounty for that End, approven. *Ibid.*

Report of the Committee for naming the Members of the Commiſſion, and drawing Inſtructions to them, brought in and approven. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion, to determine in any Proceſs about Settlement of the Town and Pariſh of *Rutherglen*. *Ibid.*

The Requeſt of certain Heritors, and others, of the Pariſh of *Badernock*, ſet forth in their Petition, craving the Commiſſion be impowered to judge in any Queſtion touching the Settlement of that Pariſh, refuſed. *Ibid.*

An Overture about licenſing Probationers, brought in from the Committee for Overtures, and a ſelect Committee named, to conſider and ripen the ſame for the Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion, to determine in a Cauſe brought by Appeal of the Earl of *Kelly* Patron, and other Heritors and Elders of the Pariſh of *Carnbee*, from a Judgment of the Synod of *Fife*, diſmiſſing their Appeal from a Sentence of the Presbytery of *St. Andrews*, adhering to a former Sentence paſt by them in *April* 1740, laying aſide a Call and Preſentation to Mr. *John Nairn*, Probationer, to be Miniſter of *Carnbee*, notwithſtanding the laſt Aſſembly had remitted to them to re-conſider the Caſe, and deal with all Parties to bring about a comfortable Settlement in the ſaid Pariſh. *Ibid.*

The Draught of a congratulatory Addreſs to the King, upon Occaſion of the taking the Forts near *Carthagena*, brought

brought in by a numerous Meeting of the Members of Aſſembly, and approven 25th *May*, *Seſſ. ult.*

Overture about licenſing Probationers, tranſmitted to the ſeveral Presbyteries. *Ibid.*

The former Order, for defraying out of the Church's publick Money, the Expences of an Application for a Gift from the Crown, of certain ſmall Benefices formerly belonging to the dignified Clergy of the Cathedral of *Dunkeld*, as an Addition to the ſmall Stipends of the Miniſters of *Abernyte* and *Benvie*, renewed. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion to judge in any Queſtion, relating to the planting of the Vacancy in the Town and Pariſh of *Culroſs*. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion to determine an Appeal of *Thomas Simſon* Inn-keeper at *Carſthorn*, in the Pariſh of *Kirkbean*, from a Sentence of the Synod of *Dumfries*, in a Proceſs of Scandal brought againſt him by *Janet Craick*, an unmarried Woman. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion, finally to determine the Appeals of Meſſrs. *Gilbert Man* Miniſter at *Monedie*, and *Alexander MacCulloch* Miniſter at *Cluny*, from a Sentence of the Synod of *Perth* and *Stirling*, ordering the Members of the Presbytery, who were preſent at Mr. *Man*'s Ordination, to be rebuked for their Conduct, in applying to the Sheriff of *Perth*, for ordering a Proceſs of Ejection to be carried on againſt the late Incumbent Miniſter's Relict, for her not removing from the Manſe and Office-houſes. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion, to judge an Appeal taken by *Patrick Yuill* in Mains of *Drummond*, from a Sentence of the Synod of *Perth* and *Stirling*, in a Proceſs for the Scandal of Fornication with *Chriſtian Dickſon* his own Servant. *Ibid.*

A Petition of the Synod of *Perth* and *Stirling*, for fixing the Places of their ſtated ordinary Meetings, read. The Aſſembly finding their firſt Meeting is by Adjournment to be at *Perth*, appointed their ſubſequent Meeting to be at *Stirling*; and if they cannot agree among themſelves, as to the fixed Places of their Meetings, they report their Opinion to the next Aſſembly, with reſpect to the Places moſt proper, where the ſame ſhould be held. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion, to conſider a Motion made for printing the Acts of the General Aſſembly preceeding the Year 1638. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion, to conſider an Overture about turning ſome Paſſages of the Old and New Teſtament into Metre, in order to be uſed in Churches as well as in Families, and take the Aſſiſtance of learned Divines, who

INDEX.

who have imployed their Time and Pains on Subjects of that Sort, and report their Opinion to the next Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion, to determine an Appeal from the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweddale*, concerning the planting of the Pariſh of *Manner*. *Ibid.*

The Synod Books of *Glenelg*, *Fife*, *Lothian* and *Tweddale*, *Merſe* and *Teviotdale*, and *Dumfries*, atteſted, with a Diſapprobation of the Synod of *Fife*'s allowing to be recorded in their Books, a Proteſt and Diſſent entred by Mr. *George Gilleſpie*, one of their Members, againſt the Sentence of the Commiſſion paſt in the Settlement of the Pariſh of *Ceres*. *Ibid.*

The Synod Books of *Perth* and *Stirling*, *Angus* and *Mearns*, *Aberdeen*, *Murray*, *Roſs*, *Sutherland* and *Caithneſs*, *Orkney*, *Galloway*, *Glaſgow* and *Air*, and *Argyle*, and Presbytery Book of *Zetland*, not being brought up to this Aſſembly, they are ordered to cauſe their Books to be brought up to the next Aſſembly to be reviſed. *Ibid.*

Proteſtation is admitted at the Inſtance of the Synod of *Murray*, againſt Mr. *Andrew Henderſon* Probationer, for not inſiſting in an Appeal entred by him from their Sentence, ſuſpending him *ſine die* from the Exerciſe of his Licence to preach the Goſpel. *Ibid.*

Proteſtation is admitted at the Inſtance of the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweddale*, againſt Mr. *John Kennedy*, for not inſiſting in his Appeal from the Sentence of the ſaid Synod, remitting to the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, to reconſider the Judgment paſt by them, depriving him of his Licence; and the ſaid Appeal is declared deſerted, and paſt from. *Ibid.*

Proteſtation admitted at the Inſtance of the Synod of *Glaſgow* and *Air*, againſt *James M^c Skimming* Miller of *Baird*'s Mill, in the Pariſh of *Kirkmichael*, for not inſiſting in his Appeal from a Sentence of the ſaid Synod, affirming the Judgment of the Presbytery of *Air* paſt againſt him for Immorality, and the ſaid Appeal is declared paſt from, and void and null. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion of all Affairs depending before the Commiſſion of the late Aſſembly, which were not diſcuſs'd by them; and particularly impowering the Commiſſion, if they ſee Cauſe, to authorize the Presbytery of *Dumblane*, to beſtow ſome Part of the Annualrents of the Fund contributed for new Erections at *Norieſtoun*, upon a Preacher to ſupply there in the Interim. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to reviſe the Minutes of this Aſſembly's Proceedings, at this, and all the other Diets thereof; and to pitch upon ſuch of the Acts of Aſſembly,

bly, as are to be ſtanding Rules, or are of publick Uſe, in order to be printed. *Ibid.*

The Minutes of this *Sederunt* were read; the Minutes of former *Sederunts* having been all read at the reſpective Diets, ſubſequent to each *Sederunt*. *Ibid.*

The Buſineſs of this Aſſembly being finiſh'd, the Rolls of the Members were called over, and the Abſents marked; and the Aſſembly ordered the Clerks to tranſmit to the ſeveral Presbyteries, Accounts of the Attendance of their reſpective Repreſentatives in this Aſſembly, on the Diets of the ſame, to the End, That ſuch as have been abſent, without a relevant Excuſe, may be cenſured. *Ibid.*

The Liſt of Probationers produced, and ordered to be recorded. *Ibid.*

The Moderator's Speech to the Aſſembly, and to His Majeſty's Commiſſioner. *Ibid.*

The Lord Commiſſioner made a Speech in Return, and then the Aſſembly was concluded. *Ibid.*

FINIS.